



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE

WESLEY CHESBRO

Senator, 2nd District

Representing the North Coast and North Bay Counties of
Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino, Lake, Napa, Sonoma,
and Solano Counties

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JANUARY 12, 2001

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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ENERGY PROJECT GETS BOOST FROM STATE **\$3.2 MILLION FOR BASIN 2000 PROJECT IN LAKE COUNTY**

SACRAMENTO - Senator Wesley Chesbro (D-Arcata) today announced \$3.2 million for an innovative energy project that will help generate new electricity for Northern California, while at the same time restoring critical wetlands habitat around Clear Lake, in Lake County.

Basin 2000 Project is a major Lake County wastewater recycling project that will use treated wastewater to develop wetlands, improve the overall water quality in Clear Lake, protect local water supply systems, and generate electricity from geothermal resources. The additional water will increase the ability of the geysers to generate steam and electrical power.

"As the Governor and the Legislature consider actions needed to address the electrical crisis, this project serves as a good example of the kinds of solutions we should be looking at in California," Chesbro added. "In fact, we need to find more projects like Basin 2000 to increase our electrical generating capacity."

The Basin 2000 Project will generate an estimated 20 megawatts of clean electrical power while preserving an estimated 3,000 acre feet of fresh water. The 20 megawatts of power is enough electricity for 20,000 homes.

"This project is an excellent example of the creation of alternative energy supplies while restoring wetlands habitat around Clear Lake," Chesbro said. "I am pleased that the State will be a major partner in this project with Lake County and that alternative sources of energy are being taken seriously."

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In the action by the State Water Resources Control Board, a \$3.2 million grant was tentatively approved for the **Basin 2000 Project** from the statewide water bond, approved by the voters in 2000. The Basin 2000 Project is estimated to cost a total of \$22 million.

This allocation, combined with \$5.8 million previously approved by the SWRCB, brings the State support for the project to \$9 million. Chesbro requested the funding be provided from the 2000 water bond for this water recycling and energy project.

For more information on the Basin 2000 Project please, contact Mark Delinger in Lake County at (707) 263-0119.

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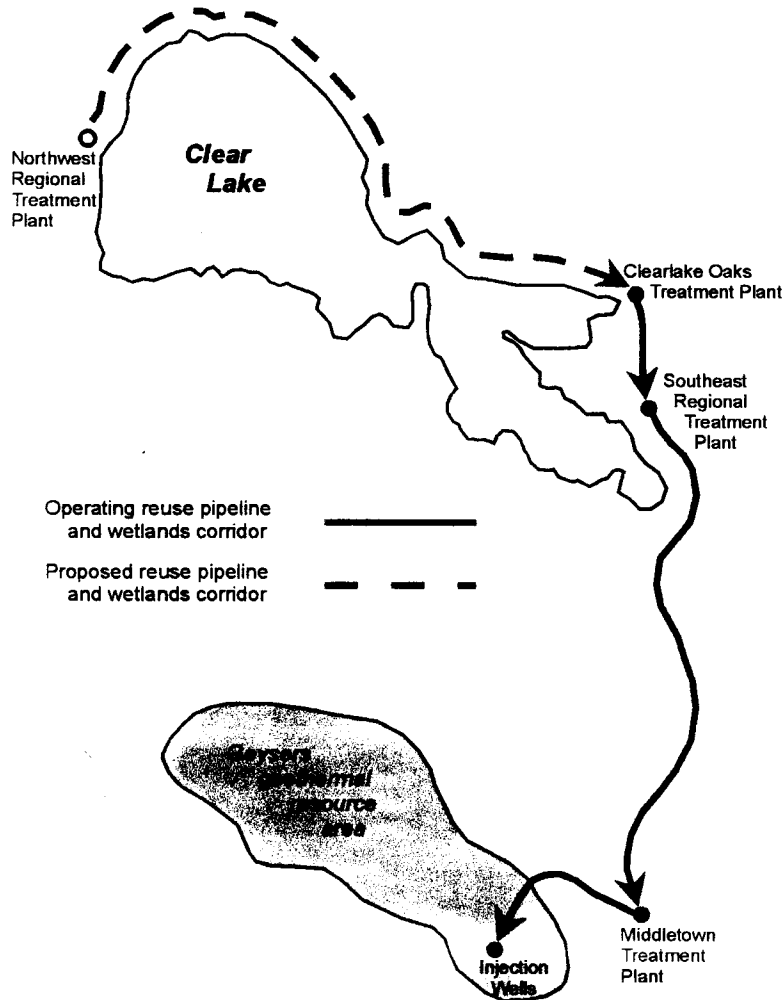


CLEAR LAKE BASIN 2000

- Clean Water for a Sustainable Future •
- Clean Power for California's Electricity Market •



Lake County's Basin 2000 is unique energy and environmental initiative that recycles wastewater to generate power for California's electricity market. Using a dual-recycling system, the project also improves water quality and creates wildlife habitat concurrently with power generation. Funds are being assembled for the project's final phase, which will make approximately 20 MW of clean, renewable power available for California in 2001.



Partners

- ☐ Lake County Sanitation District
- ☐ Clearlake Oaks Water District
- ☐ Calif. Water Res. Control Bd.
- ☐ N. California Power Agency
- ☐ Calpine Corporation
- ☐ Pacific Gas & Electric Company
- ☐ California Energy Commission
- ☐ U.S. Dept. of Energy
- ☐ U.S. Dept. of the Interior
- ☐ U.S. Dept. of Commerce
- ☐ U.S. EPA
- ☐ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Awards

- ☐ 1999 Environ. Achievement Award, National Council for Environmental Sustainability
- ☐ 1998 Award of Merit, Calif. State Assn. of Counties
- ☐ 1998 California Governor's Environmental & Economic Award
- ☐ 1998 Award of Merit, Water Reuse Association of California
- ☐ 1997 Resource Conservation Award, Calif. Municipal Utilities Assn.



Geysers power plant

Over 7 billion gallons of water and wastewater have been recycled since operations began in September 1997.



Clear Lake wetlands